Washington State Patrol Media Release

Chief John R. Batiste



** For Immediate Release ** June 8, 2006

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Changes to Infraction Law

Effective on June 7, 2006 Substitute House Bill 1650 added language which no longer requires citizens to sign an acknowledgement of receipt for an infraction notice.

"This bill will help eliminate confusion from citizens who don't want to sign a citation, and alleviate the need for our officers to obtain a signature," said Chief John R. Batiste.

The new law states that any person who receives a civil infraction must follow the procedures necessary to exercise one of the options (appeal in court, pay the fine etc.) and failure to do so in a timely manner is now a misdemeanor and may be punishable by a fine or imprisonment in jail.

"Our goal is to enforce and educate citizens on the laws in Washington State," explained Chief Batiste. "This new law will increase safety on the road by getting violators on their way and out of danger faster."

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